



Attorney Docket No. 1220.1001

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kenichi SHIRAISHI

Application No.: 10/589,437

Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No. 9870

Filed: August 15, 2006

Examiner:

For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS, SUPPLY METHOD AND RECOVERY METHOD,
EXPOSURE METHOD, AND DEVICE PRODUCING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☒ Copy(ies) of IDS citation(s), except for U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application publications.
- 1c. ☐ English language copy of a communication(s) from a foreign Patent Office or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☒ English language translation (complete, Abstract or relevant portion(s)) attached to non-English language publications as indicated on the attached Form PTO-1449.
- 1e. ☒ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of non-English publications.
- 1f. ☐ List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. ☐ List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(b):

(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
- 2b. ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c. ☒ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

3. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND
- (Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)*
- 3a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
- 3b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is:
- ☐ enclosed.
- ☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
4. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND
- 4a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
- 4b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is:
- ☐ enclosed.
- ☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
5. ☐ Statement under § 1.97(e) *(applicable if Item 3a or Item 4a is checked)*
- (Check either Item 5a or 5b)*
- 5a. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 5b. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
6. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).
- (Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)*
- 6a. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. ___, filed on ___, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
- 6b. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. ___, filed on ___, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

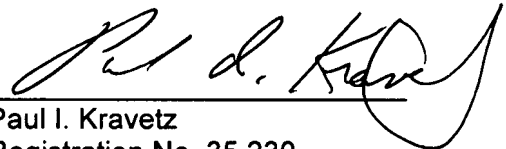
7. ☐ This is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114.
(Check either Item 7a or 7b)
- 7a. ☐ The Issue Fee has not been paid.
- 7b. ☐ A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR § 1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee, is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.114(a), respectively.
8. ☐ This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.
(Check either Item 8a or 8b)
- 8a. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on _____. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on _____.
- 8b. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, mailed _____.
9. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:
(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)
- 9a. ☐ satisfied for the non-English language publication(s) cited on the enclosed "English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP § 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, 8th Ed., Rev. 2)
- 9b. ☐ set forth in the application.
- 9c. ☐ satisfied for the non-English language publication(s) indicated on the attached Form PTO-1449 as having an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached thereto.
- 9d. ☐ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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Sheet 1 of 3

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1220.1001	10/589,437
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Kenichi SHIRAISHI	
	FILING DATE	GROUP/ART UNIT
	August 15, 2006	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	4,346,164	08/24/1982	Tabarelli et al.			
	AB	4,480,910	11/06/1984	Takanashi et al.			
	AC	5,825,043	10/20/1998	Suwa			
	AD	5,610,683	03/11/1997	Takahashi			
	AE	5,715,039	02/03/1998	Fukuda et al.			
	AF	2004/0165159	08/26/2004	Lof et al.			
	AG	6,341,007	01/22/2002	Nishi et al.			
	AH	6,400,441	06/04/2002	Nishi et al.			
	AI	6,549,269	04/15/2003	Nishi et al.			
	AJ	6,590,634	07/08/2003	Nishi et al.			
	AK	5,969,441	10/19/1999	Loopstra et al.			
	AL	6,208,407	03/27/2001	Loopstra			
	AM	5,623,853	04/29/1997	Novak et al.			
	AN	5,528,118	06/18/1996	Lee			
	AO	5,874,820	02/23/1999	Lee			
	AP	2005/0264774	12/01/2005	Mizutani et al.			
	AQ	2006/0132737	06/22/2006	Magome et al.			
	AR	2005/0030497	02/10/2005	Nakamura			



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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		ABSTRACT
					YES	NO	
	AS	WO 99/49504	09/30/1999	WIPO	X		
	AT	WO 2004/019128	03/04/2004	WIPO			
	AU	58-202448	11/25/1983	Japan	X		
	AV	59-19912	02/01/1984	Japan	X		
	AW	62-65326	03/24/1987	Japan	X		
	AX	63-157419	06/30/1988	Japan	X		
	AY	4-305915	10/28/1992	Japan	X		
	AZ	4-305917	10/28/1992	Japan	X		
	BA	5-62877	03/12/1993	Japan	X		
	BB	6-124873	05/06/1994	Japan	X		
	BC	7-220990	08/18/1995	Japan	X		
	BD	8-316125	11/29/1996	Japan		X	Yes
	BE	10-303114	11/13/1998	Japan	X		
	BF	10-340846	12/22/1998	Japan	X		
	BG	11-176727	07/02/1999	Japan	X		
	BH	2000-58436	02/25/2000	Japan	X		
	BI	DD 221 563	09/14/1983	Democratic Republic of Germany	X		
	BJ	DD 224 448	07/03/1985	Democratic Republic of Germany	X		
	BK	8-37149	02/06/1996	Japan		X	Yes
	BL	4-65603	03/02/1992	Japan		X	Yes
	BM	7-176468	07/14/1995	Japan		X	Yes
	BN	57-117238	07/21/1982	Japan		X	Yes



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1220.1001	10/589,437
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	Kenichi SHIRAISHI	
	FILING DATE	GROUP PART UNIT
	August 15, 2006	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		ABSTRACT
					YES	NO	
	BO	2002-14005	01/18/2002	Japan		X	Yes
	BP	11-16816	01/22/1999	Japan		X	Yes
	BQ	6-188169	07/08/1994	Japan		X	Yes
	BR	6-53120	02/25/1994	Japan		X	Yes
	BS	10-163099	06/19/1998	Japan		X	Yes
	BT	10-214783	08/11/1998	Japan		X	Yes
	BU	2000-505958	05/16/2000	Japan		X	No
	BV	11-135400	05/21/1999	Japan		X	Yes
	BW	8-166475	06/25/1996	Japan		X	Yes
	BX	8-330224	12/13/1996	Japan		X	Yes
	BY	WO 2004/053958	06/24/2004	WIPO		X	Yes
	BZ	WO 2005/010962	03/02/2005	WIPO		X	Yes

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

			TRANSLATION	
			YES	NO
	CA			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	

**ATTACHMENT 1(e)**

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1220.1001	10/589,437
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Kenichi SHIRAISHI	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	August 15, 2006	

JP 6-124873 (Reference BB) was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 15, 2006. We have included the English translation of the reference with this Information Disclosure Statement.

JP 10-163099 (Reference BS) corresponds to JP 10-214783 (Reference BT), US 6,341,007 (Reference AG), US 6,400,411 (Reference AH), US 6,549,269 (Reference AI), and US 6,590,634 (Reference AJ).

JP 2000-505958 (Reference BU) corresponds to US 5,969,441 (Reference AK).

JP 8-166475 (Reference BW) corresponds to US 5,528,118 (Reference AN).

JP 8-330224 (Reference BX) corresponds to US 5,874,820 (Reference AO).

WO 2004/053958 (Reference BY) corresponds to US 2005/0264774 (Reference AP).

WO 2005/010962 (Reference BZ) corresponds to US 2006/0132737 (Reference AQ).